

MADRONA

January 2001
Issue No. 129

NEWS

Keep Red Apple Market in Madrona Owner supports community, now needs our support!

By Shelley Huestis

Since he took over our neighborhood grocery store a year ago, Lenny Rose, owner of the Union Street Red Apple market, has made a major positive impact on Madrona, especially Madrona School. Now Lenny and his employees need us to support them more than ever by shopping at their store.

Lenny plans to completely renovate this property but for now he is struggling just to keep his business alive. By February 1, Lenny's store must increase business by 10% just to stay open. If he meets this target he will qualify to use a promised \$3 million grant to refurbish the store and landscape the entrance to Madrona.

Neighbors such Lenny and his store are invaluable and we must all do what we can to keep them in Madrona. One example of Lenny's generosity is his donation of dinner for all the attendees to the monthly Thursday meeting of the Madrona School Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA).

"I was born six blocks from this school," said Lenny. "I've lived here all of my life. We want to help improve the school and the neighborhood. I'm glad to help the PTSA."

Thanks to Lenny, the PTSA meetings have higher attendance than they have had for years. And with the school's renovation plans in the works, parent and community especially critical right now.

If business does not increase 10% by February 1, Lenny will lose his block grant and will have to sell his property lease. The store will close and condominiums will likely be built on the lot. Jobs will be lost, our neighborhood grocery store will be gone, and the Madrona School will lose a wonderful supporter.

So please do the store, the school and the community a very big favor and shop as much as you can at Union Street Red Apple Market these next few week--and longer! Together we can easily increase business by 10% to support a local grocery store and a committed partner of Madrona School.

Lenny can be reached at 323-1325 or lenny_rose@agsea.com. He's showing his commitment to improving Madrona, so let's do the same by helping him!

By the Book

By Maire Thompson

Happy New Year from the staff at the Madrona-Sally Goldmark Library! We are thrilled to tell you about our amazing children's programs. Along with the wonderful Summer Reading Program, we will host other fabulous programs throughout the year. Here are just a few:

- Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration
Wednesday, Feb. 28th, 10:30 am
- Environmental Science Series March/April
- Nancy Stewart's Music Series in October.

It's nothing new in the world of children's literature for celebrities to write and/or illustrate books. Here are a couple of Academy Award-worthy books by celebrities:

A Chocolate Moose, written and illustrated by Fred Gwynne (Herman on TV's "The Munsters"). A humorous look at the quirky world of homonyms and the absurdities of the English language. A little girl imagines what her parents mean by "chocolate moose", "airplane hangars", and "car pools".

Where Do Balloons Go? An Uplifting Mystery, by Jamie Lee Curtis, illustrated by Laura Cornell. In this, her fourth book, Curtis has undeniably established herself as a wonderful children's author. A young narrator asks, "Where do balloons go when you let them go free? It can happen by accident. It happened to me." With that, we are off on a whimsical adventure to all the places balloons might go after they are (accidentally, of course) let go. Cornell's ink and watercolor illustrations are terrific!

MCC President's Corner

Monthly Neighborhood Update

by Bill Hanson

Once again, the Madrona Community Council (MCC) will recognize and honor Madrona residents and organizations. Neighborhood Appreciation day is Feb. 10th. The celebration is chaired by Jim Melillo and will feature celebrities from the Seattle area.

Nominations are being solicited for the following awards:

- **Nora Award:** named in honor of Madrona activist Nora Wood and given to a Madrona resident whose life work has changed or influenced the community.

- **Local Hero Award:** given to a Madrona resident for an act of heroism, singular kindness, or unusual generosity.
- **Unsung Hero Award:** given to a Madrona resident for service to others in the larger community.

If you know someone who deserves recognition, please send me an email at hansonwilliam@msn.com or call me at 323-3450. Please include your phone number and a brief explanation as to why you think they qualify.

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President's Corner (cont'd from page 1)

As you may remember, four separate appeals were filed by neighbors against the Seattle School District's plan to demolish the 1917 building Madrona School building and add a middle school and gym to the existing 1960s building. On December 15th, the Seattle Hearing Examiner found in favor of the school district. I have been advised that the neighbors will not continue their appeals to Superior Court.

An agreement has been reached to allow the public and Madrona School shared use of Madrona Playfield. The school will be permitted to use the playfield tennis courts, playfields and basketball courts during P.E., with no school use permitted for recess. Teachers will be required to escort students to the playfield and the school's use excludes the small children's play area, except for use by children in the special education program. A message I received from Ken Bounds, Superintendent of Parks & Recreation, reaffirms this decision and states that at the start of each quarter the Madrona School's planned usage will be posted in the Madrona Playfield kiosk. Ken also emphasized that the park would be open at all other times during the school day for general community use.

This agreement is actually very similar to a draft agreement Grace Schlitt Lenz negotiated with the school's Vice Principal Antoinette Sabartos in August. Ken was very complimentary of the

community's effort to develop the agreement that was ultimately supported by the hearing examiner. Thank you Grace for your hard work in creating an agreement that provides for the joint use of these facilities to the benefit of the public and students alike.

In a further effort to strengthen ties between the Madrona school and the Madrona community, I would like to encourage all of you to join the PTSA. I'm a member and you do not need to have the children in the school to be a member or an officer. The more official PTSA members we have, the better, because it demonstrates to the district and state that there is parent and neighborhood involvement in the school. Plus, the \$10 per person annual membership helps fund school programs. Even if you can not regularly attend PTSA meetings but would like to help with volunteering and/or fund-raising, please join. Send your name, telephone number and address along with a \$10 membership fee check, made out to Madrona PTSA, to Evelyn Berry, 8624 Delridge Way SW #B, Seattle, 98106. If you have any questions, please contact the Madrona PTSA President, Merrily Wolf at merrilyw@earthlink.net.

Next time you clean out your closet, set aside your findings to sell at our next neighborhood garage sale, scheduled for April 28th. Plan ahead too for our annual Mayfair celebration scheduled for May 19th. We do need someone to coordinate our Mayfair celebration. If you are interested, call me at 323-3450.

I hope you all had a great holiday and are having a wonderful New Year. Please remember to attend the February 6th Madrona Community Council meeting at the Madrona Plaza building, 1421 34th Ave. on the 2nd floor at 7:15 p.m. Please come and help us make this an even better place to live.

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Welcome to New Madrona News Editor

In another display of community support, a new volunteer has come forward to pickup the red pen from Madrona News editor Christopher King. Work commitments forced Christopher to step aside but we all thank him for his support of this newsletter and hope that we can still count on him for a story now and then.

With this issue the new Madrona News editor is Kim Herber, a Madrona resident since 1994 and a 10 year resident of Leschi. Kim has been very involved in grant writing for the Madrona Playfield and various other community events. She and her husband Thom Ditty ran the refreshment stand at last summer's BBQ - remember those fresh grilled hot dogs?

As always, your feedback on newsletter content and format is always welcome, as are your news tips and stories. Send materials to the newsletter staff at christine@conversation.com or contact Kim directly at 325-9923 or kdh5027@aol.com

Madrona Woods Update

Adopt -A-Plot

By Judith Starbuck

Would you like to adopt a plot in the Madrona Woods? Look at what the school children from St. Therese and Epiphany have been doing in their little plots for the past two years, and think about having a plot of your own could be a fun project for family or group tackle to learn and work together.

At the appropriate seasons you would:

- choose and mark a plot from areas selected by naturalists for their different ecosystems of the Woods
- identify native plants and clear away invasive ivy, holly, laurel and blackberries
- learn about the soil, water and light conditions to help you choose what kind of native plants suit your plot
- order plants that match your ecosystem and your preferences, using spacing requirements provided to determine how many you need of each tree, shrub, ground cover and flower
- put the plants into the plot when they arrive at the appropriate time of the year, in fall or winter
- mulch around your plants to preserve moisture and control weeds
- watch your plot throughout the year, making sure it has enough water and mulch and is kept free of invasives.

Madrona Woods volunteers will help you chose a plot, supply written materials and instruction and order the plants for you. Please call Judith Starbuck at 322-2640 if your family would like to participate in this adopt-a-plot program.

Also join us at our next planting party on January 20 at 10:00 am. We'll gather at the 38th street entrance and spend the day planting native plants along the new trails and near the new waterfall. We tolerate the rain but this event will be canceled if the high winds pick up. Please come - lunch provided!



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Neighborhood Appreciation Day

by *Jim Melillo*

About 5 weeks from now, on Saturday February 10th neighborhoods all through Seattle will mark Neighborhood Appreciation Day. It is a time when people poke their heads up from their busy schedules to appreciate what has been happening right around them. Madrona has become the defacto center for this celebration. It is here that Mayor Paul Schell will start his tour of celebrations throughout the city. We expect the list of attendees will be a "Who's Who" of city, county and national politics.

For many years people have talked about NIMBY (Not in My Back Yard). Yet this day allows communities to say: "Here in My Back Yard" is the where I want to make a difference. The center of the program is recognizing the people who have made the community special, the unsung heroes and the people who made a difference in our lives this year.

So the question is now "What Will You Do" to support Madrona? Something simple would be to go to your Palm Pilot, appointment book, refrigerator and mark meet you neighbors, Saturday morning, February 10, 9:00 am at the Madrona Ale House. Come hear some music, get free coffee and donuts. As important, talk to your elected representatives about your roads, your schools, airplane noise, safety, crime or any other topic that is important. The people who work hard for Madrona will appreciate the recognition, the politicians will help our community because they know its members are involved, and you get a free donut! What a deal. See you there.

Big Garage, Big Sale, Big Success

by *Kim Herber*

The rummage sale held in November was fun and such a success we've decided to do it again April 28. As before, you can donate items to be sold to raise money for neighborhood projects, or rent a table, sell you own goodies, and keep the big bucks yourself. So start squirreling away your odds and ends so you'll be ready in April.

The November sale, primarily a fund-raiser for the Madrona Community Council and the renovation of Madrona Playfield, raised nearly \$400. An equal amount was pocketed by the families and friends who set up their own tables and passed on treasures from their homes to others throughout Madrona.

Items for sale ranged from fresh-baked cookies supplied by Emilia and Julia Bladin to an antique fire extinguisher at Bill Hanson and Jacqui Kleffman's table. The Wyatt family cleared out a huge amount of boy's clothes, toys, and soccer shoes, although a large percentage of their profits were spent immediately on trinkets and treasures at Madrona PTSA table run by Shelly Huestis, Evelyn Berry and Merrily Wolf. Both Kim Herber and Suzanne Melillo displayed many tasteful decorator items that now grace the homes of others. Joan Melendez, Emily Cooper and Scott Jurek from the Institute for Prevention Solutions passed on lots of gently worn clothes while Morgan and Susan Dicus sold the Big Ticket item of the day — a refurbished violin.

Thanks to Suzanne Melillo and her staff for hosting the event in the indoor garage of her Madrona Plaza building on 34th, and to Kim Herber for planning and organizing the sale. Thanks too to the special people around the neighborhood including Donna Lou, Jean Greaves, Robert Ingman, Pam Williams, Inge Johnson, Tina Albro and others who brought donations to sell. And even more thanks to Thom Ditty and Peter Bladin for hauling the leftovers to Goodwill on Sunday afternoon.

This sale was like a buffalo hunt, in that nothing was wasted. Items that did not sell were either donated to charity or, in the case of wonderful kids books and sporting equipment, given to Community Day School Association, which runs the preschool and the before- and after-school program at Madrona School. This sale generated no trash, only happy customers with new old treasures.

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NEW BROOM

Madrona School PTSA

Notes from 12/13 Meeting by Shelley Huestis

Volunteer Opportunities--call 726-6690

- Parent Resource Coordinator Coralyn Mills needs help organizing clothing donations for homeless families. Also, any clothing donations, particularly winter coats, would be greatly appreciated. Coralyn also needs help filing, and decorating bulletin boards with parent resource info.
- Vice Principal Antoinette Sabarots needs help staffing the Pride Card Store on Fridays from 11-1. Students receive Pride Cards for doing the right thing, then exchange them for treats. Donated items are also needed for the Pride Card Store.
- Librarian Ms. Floyd needs help counting and bundling box tops and labels to mail back to the manufacturer for cash.

Donations needed

- Ms. Floyd, school librarian, is seeking dictionaries and atlases to improve the library reference collection. If you have reference books to donate, please bring them to the school. If you want help the school purchase new books, send a check made out to Madrona PTSA to Evelyn Berry PTSA Treasurer, 8624 Delridge Way SW, #B, Seattle, 98106.
- Madrona School has qualified for over \$1,000 from the federal government for the Reading Is Fundamental program, which gives every student a book to keep as a holiday gift, as well as two books in the spring. To get this federal money, we need to raise \$427 in private matching donations. If you can contribute to this very important project, please mail a check to Evelyn at the above address.

Volunteer Coordinator Update

Applicants for the school's volunteer coordinator position are

currently being screened by the Seattle Urban League. An interview team at the school will review final candidates shortly, and we hope to have the new coordinator in place this month.

January PTSA Update!

The Madrona business community started 2001 with a bang, offering great assistance to Madrona School on various projects. Lenny Rose, owner of Union Street Red Apple Market and Promenade Red Apple Market on Jackson, is donating dinner for twenty for the monthly PTSA meetings. Madrona Automatic, Inc. and St. Clouds Restaurant donated \$427 to the school's Reading Is Fundamental Program to ensure Madrona School receives its \$1,000 from the federal government to give each student books. Also, the Madrona Plaza building donated \$2,500 to help Madrona School pay for student uniforms.

To get involved with Madrona School, please attend the monthly PTSA meetings in the school library from 7 to 8pm on the second Thursday of the month. Meeting dates for the remainder of the this school year are Wednesday Feb 8, March 7, April 12, and May 10.

For more information on Madrona School PTSA, please contact PTSA president Merrily Wolf, 324-6773, or merrilyw@earthlink.net.

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MADRONA NEWS

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Bulletin Board

Jan. 18 4-8pm RESOLUTIONS OPEN HOUSE at Institute for Prevention Solutions (free food samples & massage) Info at 219-1400

Jan. 20, 10am to 2 pm MADRONA WOODS PLANTING at 38th Street Entrance - Judith Starbuck 322- 2640.

Jan. 24, 7pm MADRONA RAVINE MEETING at Madrona School - Bill Hanson 323-3450

Feb. 3, 1-4pm COUPLES MASSAGE WORKSHOP at Institute for Prevention Solutions - Preregister at 219-1400

Feb. 6, 7:15pm MADRONA COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING at Madrona Plaza - Bill Hanson 323-3450

Feb. 8, 7pm MADRONA SCHOOL PTSA MEETING at Madrona School Library - Merrily Wolf 324-6773

Feb. 10, 9pm NEIGHBORHOOD APPRECIATION DAY at Madrona Ale House - Jim Melillo 219-1515

Feb. 16, Noon DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY MADRONA NEWS - Kim Herber 325-9923 or
christine@conversation.com

Feb. 28, 10:30am DR. SEUSS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION Children's program at the library - Maire Thompson
684-6705

Mar. 3, Time TBD MADRONA PLAYFIELD PLANTING PARTY at the Playfield - Marie Doyle 326-6128

Mar. 6, 7:15pm MADRONA COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING at Madrona Plaza - Bill Hanson 323-3450

Mar. 7, 7pm MADRONA SCHOOL PTSA MEETING at Madrona School library - Merrily Wolf 324-6773